



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Minority Business Development Agency

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Online Customer Relationship Management (CRM)/Performance Databases, the Online Phoenix Database, and the Online Opportunity Database

AGENCY: Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before [Insert date 60 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at JJessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Cynthia Rios, Program Management Unit Supervisor, MBDA Office of Business Development, (202) 482-1940, or via electronic mail at crios@mbda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

As part of its national service delivery system, MBDA awards cooperative agreements each year to fund the provision of business development services to eligible minority business enterprises (MBEs). The recipient of each cooperative agreement is competitively selected to operate one of the following business center programs: (1) an MBDA Business Center or (2) a Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC). In accordance with the Government Performance Results Act (GPRA), MBDA requires all center operators to report basic client information, service activities and progress on attainment of program goals via the Online CRM/Performance Databases. The data collected through the Online CRM/Performance Databases is used to regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of MBDA's funded centers, to provide the Department and OMB with a summary of the quantitative information that it requires

about government supported programs, and to implement the GPRA. This information is also summarized and included in the MBDA Annual Performance Report, which is made available to the public.

Additionally, NABEC program award recipients are required to list MBEs to conduct business in the United States in the Online Phoenix Database. This listing is used to match those registered MBEs with opportunities entered in the Online Opportunity Database by public and private sector entities. The MBEs may also self-register via the Online Phoenix Database for notification of potential business opportunities.

Revision: In Fiscal Year 2011 MBDA developed and implemented a new Customer Relationship Management/Performance Database to reflect the requirements of the redesigned MBDA Business Center program. The streamlining of certain administrative and reporting requirements for the new program are reflected in the system, and resulted in a decrease in the overall estimate of burden hours for users under the new program structure. The NABEC program will continue to utilize the original Performance, Phoenix and Opportunity databases until the program is redesigned, which is planned for completion during Fiscal Year 2012.

II. Method of Collection

Information will be collected electronically.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0640-0002.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (revision and extension of a currently approved information collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions; individuals or households; Federal, State, Local or Tribal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,633.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1 minute to 210 minutes, depending on the function.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,516.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 29, 2012

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Billing Code: 3510-21-P

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